

sponsorship that led to the creation of the park in 1988. It is a true honor to have called Bruce a friend. He was a dedicated environmental advocate, and his leadership helped forge a uniquely new kind of national park—a partnership park. The National Park Service owns little of the land within MNRRA, but works seamlessly with local governments, state agencies, non-profits, businesses, educational institutions and individuals to protect our precious lands and resources along the Mississippi River in the Twin Cities.

As the lifelong home of Congressman Vento, it is fitting that Saint Paul is the base of park operations. Both the headquarters as well as the visitor center in the Science Museum of Minnesota are nestled alongside the river in downtown Saint Paul. Despite being in the center of a busy urban area, this stretch of the upper Mississippi River is teeming with life, providing food and shelter for countless birds, fish and mammals. The very symbol of America—the bald eagle—is well represented in the park with one of the largest nesting populations in the country.

The Mississippi National River and Recreation Area offers beautiful trails and scenic landscapes for people to enjoy in the heart of the Twin Cities. Some of the most important sites in our history are located here—Fort Snelling, Saint Anthony Falls and the confluence of the Mississippi with the Minnesota River. Even before settlers dispossessed this land in the 1800s, original Mdewakanton Dakota living here considered this their Eden, the center of the world.

The Mississippi National River Recreation Area is truly a park that brings history, science and recreation together. No better example is the success of the Urban Wilderness Canoe Adventure—a special partnership between the National Park Service, local schools, non-profits, businesses and many others—that is providing an opportunity for 10,000 urban youth each year to experience the river from voyageur canoes. Students learn about the river and its special significance through direct “hands on the canoe paddle” experience.

While it is still relatively new by national park standards, it is an honor to celebrate this major milestone. Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

TO WHERE HEARTS OF COURAGE ROAM—IN MEMORY OF SCOTT CARPENTER

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a poetic tribute in honor of an American Hero, Astronaut Scott Carpenter's passing . . . Scott was the second American to orbit in space. God Speed America's son. I ask that this poem penned by Albert Carey Caswell be placed in the RECORD.

TO WHERE HEARTS OF COURAGE ROAM

(By: Albert Carey Caswell)

To . . .

To where hearts of courage roam!
To such places the future now so owns!
So where such courage belongs!

So all by themselves, so out there all alone!
To a place where exploration heart's so
roam!

Where life and death,
so lies all on that edge!
So etched all in history's home!
To so find the answers,
Which must now be known!
As we looked up Scott,
And you were gone!
And if I were a Carpenter,
I'd be The Right Stuff moving upward and
on!

As you and your friend John Glenn,
such a dynamic duo had once so formed!
As the bravest,
and the boldest who shall live on!
As a pioneer of space exploration,
all in search of new frontiers!
All out there on that cutting edge,
all without fear!
As your life Scott,
to exploration was so pledged!
While, against all odds you would not hedge!
As an Astronaut heading into the sun!
Raising “The Mercury”,
with the strength of “Atlas” to exploration
you'd run!

To win what so must be won!
And then,
under the oceans for so much more to come!
So ready to pay with your own most precious
life,

as was America's heroic son who shone so
bright!

Pushing that envelope,
so all in flight!
All so that we could be here!
As your family,
anxiously so awaited all in their tears!
Oh yes,

you were a shining star!
Carrying our Nation,
out into the future so fast and far!
To such new heights,
and ever new frontiers!
To a place where others fear!
SO CALM!

SO COOL!
AND SO COLLECTED!
THE RIGHT STUFF!
SO HERE!
Living and dying for something worthwhile,
into each new coming year!

To know,
what must so be known!
To sow,
what must be sown!
To go where hearts of courage,
must roam!
The sole reason why,
Women and Mankind so stand alone!
To a place where hearts of courage must
roam!

Oh what a striking figure Scott,
you'd so cast!
All out there into the future's past,
which so lives on,
so lasts!
Wherever, hearts of honor roam!
That which hearts of exploration wish to
own!

Whether, above the earth or SEALAB below!
As there Scott, you would go!
With such faith and courage you owned!
As why men like you,
The Right Stuff so stand alone!
God Speed America's fine Son!
As your life upon this earth,
is now so sadly done!
But just look,
all in your short life what you have owned!
As so boldly and bravely for our futures,
your heart so roamed,
To do what must so be done!
And where would we all so be,
if it were but not for such courageous ones as
all of these?

God Speed,
ascend to Heaven Scott my son!
To where hearts of courage roam!

CONGRATULATING DUKE UNIVER- SITY HOSPITAL ON THE OCCA- SION OF BEING HONORED WITH THE BALDRIDGE AWARD IN LEAD- ERSHIP

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Duke University Hospital, located in Durham, North Carolina for being recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce as a 2013 Baldrige National Quality Award Honoree in Leadership.

Since 1988 the Department of Commerce has recognized numerous U.S. organizations from various industry sectors for their exemplary performances in innovative practices, dynamic management, financial management, employee and customer satisfaction, and commitment to excellence and proven results. This year, Duke University Hospital is being recognized, along with one other organization nationwide, for its best practices in leadership.

Duke University Hospital delivers exemplary and innovative care not just to the entire Durham community, but nationally and internationally, by providing a remarkable facility of 924 acute care beds and 18 psychiatry beds. The hospital has a long tradition of excellence and has been repeatedly recognized for outstanding care by publications including TIME and US News & World Report. In 2012 Duke University Hospital became the first hospital to achieve the top recognition by the state of North Carolina's Awards for Excellence program for outstanding businesses practices. The hospital ranks among the best facilities in the country for quality of care, and is one of the preeminent teaching hospitals in the country through their partnership with Duke University School of Medicine.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the doctors, nurses, staff, and students of Duke University Hospital for their commitment to exceptional leadership and quality health care. Duke University Hospital continues to be a tremendous asset and partner with the Durham community. This reward is a testament to the innovation and leadership of Duke University Hospital and reinforces the “City of Medicine” moniker for the City of Durham. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating Duke University Hospital's great achievement by being recognized as a 2013 Baldrige National Quality Award Leadership Honoree.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE ELAINE G. VANN ON THE OCCA- SION OF HER RETIREMENT AS WASHINGTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA'S REGISTER OF DEEDS

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Honorable Elaine G.